

REMARKS

The specification has been reviewed, and a clerical error of the specification has been corrected.

In paragraph 2 of the Action, claims 1 to 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Osajima et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,616,849).

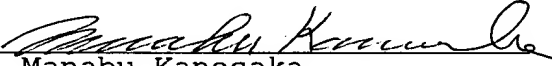
The present application was filed on October 10, 2000 claiming a convention priority of Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-127082 filed on April 27, 2000, while Osajima et al. had been filed on May 2, 2000, which is later than the priority date of the present application. Now, the applicant claims the benefit of the foreign priority under 35 U.S.C 119. Therefore, Osajima et al. is not prior art of the application under 35 U.S.C. 102(e).

The priority document of Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-127082 was filed on October 10, 2000 at the time of filing the application. If a verified translation of the priority document is required, the verified translation will be filed.

Reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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